

Appl: No. 09/993,321  
Amdt. dated May 20, 2004  
Reply to Office action of November 21, 2003

### REMARKS

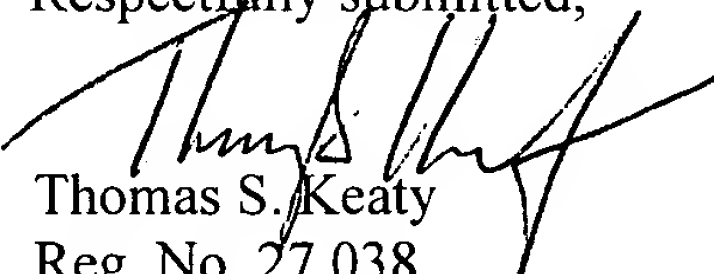
This is a response to the Office Action of November 21, 2003. The applicant and his newly appointed attorney would like to thank Examiner Safavi for the courtesies of the telephone conversations on May 18 and 19, 2004. Please note a Power of Attorney enclosed with this Response authorizing the Patent Office to revoke all prior powers of attorney and granting the Power of Attorney in this application to the undersigned.

A Request for Extension of Time for three months accompanies this response along with the required fee.

Claims 1 – 32 pending in the application. Claims 4 – 9 and 16 – 32 were allowed. Claims 1-3 and 10-15 were rejected. The applicant cancelled the rejected claims. The applicant reserves the right to file a continuation application on the rejected claims before prosecution of the instant application is closed.

All issues having been resolved, an early Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Thomas S. Keaty  
Reg. No. 27,038  
Keaty Professional Law Corporation  
2140 World Trade Center  
2 Canal Street  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130  
Tel: (504) 524-2100  
Attorney for Applicant

<p><b>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</b> I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents Post Office Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450</p> <p>On: <u>5-20-04</u> By: <u>Pamela Gautreaux</u> Pamela Gautreaux</p>
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